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Wetlands Protection Committee Minutes 5/19/2016

Town of Wellesley
Wetlands Protection Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2016

Approved 10/13/2016

Meeting Location: NRC Office, Lower Level, Town Hall
525 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02482

Present: Members Richard Howell, Carl Sciple (acting Chair), Peter Jones, Linda Hansen (Wetlands Administrator), and Sarah Clarren (Administrative Support)

Guests: Lloyd Geisinger, Diane Simonelli, Ryan Hutchins, Liz and Alan Ouellet, Dan Gordon, Paul Pronovost and Shawn Byrne

Public Voice no one was present

Administrative Business

- Wetland Administrative Bylaw Regulations: the Committee decided that a public hearing on the revisions to the Wetland Administrative Bylaw Regulations will be held on Wednesday, June 22nd, with an alternate date of Tuesday, June 21st.
- COC Request: 8 Brookfield Circle, MassDEP# 324-743. D. Simonelli provided a brief recap of what has been done on-site. She stated that a bluestone patio was installed in the place of a permitted deck. To address the Committee's mitigation requirement, she submitted revised stormwater calculations. D. Simonelli said that a swale/trench is proposed at corner of patio, closest to the river bank that consists of washed stone. The swale is designed to capture runoff from the patio. She also stated that the patio is partially pervious, as there are gaps in the stones. The Committee stated that the owners would have to maintain the swale and because the swale has yet to be built, that cannot be a special condition in this COC. When the owners request a complete COC, an ongoing special condition requiring the continued maintenance of the patio and swale will be included. D. Simonelli requested a partial Certificate of Compliance, allowing for a two-year growing period. **R. Howell made and P. Jones seconded a motion to grant a partial Certificate of Compliance; the Wetlands Protection Committee (WPC) voted 3-0 to accept the motion.**

- COC Request: 6 Twitchell Road, MassDEP# 324-0793: L. Hansen began by stating that D. Simonelli provided an updated plan and letter earlier in the day. The Committee reviewed the newly submitted plan. D. Simonelli stated that the new plan includes the previously missing bulkhead and the accompanying letter includes the revised stormwater calculations that the Committee requested. She stated that the covered deck is 4.2 sq ft larger than what was permitted and the bulkhead includes 30.7 sq ft in the riverfront area. The calculations indicate that the installed Cultec infiltration system can support more runoff than the home will create. She then stated that runoff from the patio will infiltrate into the ground and will not be captured by the Cultec. The Committee reiterated that an engineer provide the calculations, to which D. Simonelli agreed. **P. Jones made and R. Howell seconded a motion to grant a complete Certificate of Compliance; the Wetlands Protection Committee (WPC) voted 3-0 to accept the motion.**
- COC Request: 23 Wingate Road, MassDEP# 324-0676. D. Simonelli stated that she was hopeful for a complete Certificate of Compliance, but stated that she was uncertain when the shrubs were planted. L. Hansen suggested issuing a partial Certificate and revisiting the site in a year to examine the plantings. **C. Sciple made and R. Howell seconded a motion to grant a partial Certificate of Compliance; the Wetlands Protection Committee (WPC) voted 3-0 to accept the motion.**
- Minor Modification request: 265 Grove Street, MassDEP# 324-0775. L. Geisinger was present for the hearing. Since the last hearing, L. Geisinger submitted the requested maintenance plan of the pavers and revised stormwater calculations. L. Geisinger stated that the original home had no infiltration whatsoever and the new home will fully infiltrate the 4,592sq ft roof. The proposed driveway will be gravel. The Committee examined the maintenance plan and calculations. L. Hansen raised an issue regarding unpermitted tree removal, to which L. Geisinger denied responsibility. He agreed to meet L. Hansen on site to inspect the trees. **P. Jones made and R. Howell seconded a motion to accept the minor modification; the Wetlands Protection Committee (WPC) voted 3-0 to accept the motion.**
- 67 Lowell Street: restoration plan
 - D. Gordon (representative) was present for the hearing. The Committee examined the restoration plan from Kathryn Ostermier to L. Hansen. D. Gordon confirmed the restoration plan includes that yard waste under 8-inch be removed from the wetland buffer and the stump located on the berm should be ground down 6-12 inches. L. Hansen stated that in her correspondence with Ms. Ostermier she requested a wildlife corridor, with a minimum of 3 inches, should be maintained under the fence and that planting should be added to the low point at the rear corner of the yard where wetlands are located. The Committee suggested that invasive species, particularly knotweed, be removed from the area. L. Hansen said she would draft a response to Ms. Ostermier. **The discussion was continued to the next meeting.**
- Topsoil Storage at Longfellow Pumping Station
 - L. Hansen stated that she conducted a site visit and determined that the area is already disturbed, so the area will not be degraded with topsoil storage.
- Enforcement Order: 116 Manor Avenue
 - L. Hansen stated that she issued an Enforcement Order. She stated that she received an anonymous tip that the owners were filling their backyard, which is a wetland.

She said that when she arrived, she saw that soil had been brought in and landscapers were seeding the area. She also noted that one tree (on a bank) had been cut and another was being cut. The Committee asked how much fill had been brought in, to which L. Hansen said she did not know. **C. Sciple made and P. Jones seconded a motion to ratify the Enforcement Order; the Wetlands Protection Committee (WPC) voted 3-0 to accept the motion.**

Public Hearings – New and Continued*

7:00 109 Barton Road-- amended OOC, Mass DEP# 324-0722

The Committee examined the revised Exhibit A, that was changed to reflect an amended OOC and includes a condition requiring installation of water bags for the proposed new trees. **R. Howell made and P. Jones seconded a motion to close and issue the Amended Order with the stated modifications; the WPC voted 3-0 to close the hearing and issue the Amended Order.**

7:05 25 Woodchester Road-- continued NOI, Mass DEP #324-0819

D. Simonelli stated that the manhole will be raised up to meet the proposed grade and that the homeowner sent a letter, which was reviewed and approved by Town Counsel, stating that the owners will maintain the retaining wall in perpetuity. George Saraceno has asked to visually inspect the pipe and be present to oversee the manhole work. L. Hansen said she would speak to G. Saraceno to confirm who is responsible for the camera/inspection of the pipe and if it should be inspected before the Order is issued. The Committee reviewed Exhibit A and suggested a minor change (that the retaining wall be maintained in perpetuity, at the owners' cost). **P. Jones made and R. Howell seconded a motion to close and issue the Order with the minor modifications; the WPC voted 3-0 to close the hearing and issue the Order.**

7:15 10 Old Farm Road-- continued NOI, Mass DEP #324-0814

L. Hansen stated that no peer review report has been submitted. **The hearing was continued to the next meeting.**

7:30 17 Colby Road-- continued NOI, Mass DEP #324-0820

R. Hutchins (owner) and D. Simonelli (representative) were present for the hearing.

L. Hansen began by stating that a letter from the arborist and a new plan were submitted early in the day. The Committee reviewed the new plan. L. Hansen said that she spoke with Cricket Vlass and she had a few suggestions, which include: shrinking the retaining wall and adding a woodland garden near the front of the walk. D. Simonelli stated that the newly submitted plan includes C. Vlass's suggestions and also contain more plantings. The letter from the arborist addresses the large pine tree that will be removed to accommodate the new driveway. Alternatively, if the driveway was moved to the front of the house, than another large pine will have to be removed. The Committee said that the mitigation plantings proposed will leave the lot in a better condition than it is currently. The Committee then reviewed Exhibit A. **R. Howell made and P. Jones seconded a motion to close the hearing and issue the Order with the minor modifications; the WPC voted 3-0 to close and issue the Order.**

7:50 Keolis Commuter Services— continued RDA

L. Hansen stated that at the last hearing, the Committee determined that a new delineation is required; one has yet to be submitted. She then stated that she is completing a training to allow her access to the commuter rail tracks so that she can examine the limited spray areas with the consultant. **The hearing was continued until the next meeting.**

8:20 45 Ravine Road—continued NOI, Mass DEP # 324-08XX

D. Gordon (representative), was present for the hearing. L. Hansen said that the stormwater report still needs to be reviewed. She asked the Committee if they would prefer the Town Engineer review the report, or hire a peer reviewer. The Committee said that L. Hansen should ask the town engineer first, and if it could be reviewed within two weeks, no peer review will be necessary. The Committee asked if a third party should be hired to evaluate the pre- and post-construction conditions of the wetlands; L. Hansen stated that this evaluation could be a Special Condition of the OOC. **The hearing was continued until the next meeting.**

8:50 99 Great Plain Avenue—continued RDA

L. and A. Ouellet (owners) were present for the hearing to install a shed in the buffer zone.

L. Hansen began by stating that Fuller Brook runs along the property and that the proposed shed needs to be, at least, outside the 25' no disturb zone. She suggested that it should be moved entirely out of the flood plain. A. Ouellet said that he would suggest a new location of the shed and have a surveyor stamp and submit an updated plan.

L. Hansen stated that the wood pile and all yard waste needs to be removed from Town property. The Committee stated that before the owners remove any trees, they must come before the Committee. The Committee said that native plantings will need to be planted to stabilize the bank where the trees were removed. L. Hansen offered to help with the selection of plants. The Committee requested that the plantings be on the updated plan, to which L. and A. Ouellet agreed.

R. Howell made and P. Jones seconded a motion to issue a negative determination (#3), with the following conditions: 1) an updated plan, stamped by a surveyor be submitted, 2) the shed will be moved and the wood from the wood pile shall then be placed in the shed and the yard waste removed from town land, and 3) the owners will come before the Committee prior to removing any trees on the property; the WPC voted 3-0.

9:10 221 Bristol Road—new RDA

P. Pronovost (representative) and S. Byrne (owner) were present for the hearing.

S. Byrne stated that he wants to convert the existing porch into a family room. The home is in a buffer zone and the proposed work is over existing lawn. Currently, there is a slab on grade foundation. The owner plans to have a basement below the proposed family room, with a connection to the existing basement, which has concrete walls. The Committee asked what kind/s of vegetation is in the backyard, to which S. Byrne replied that it is mostly grass, with a few lines of trees along the property lines. The Committee determined that there is no feasible alternative to the proposed plan, as there is a large amount of ledge on the property.

There is currently no plan to infiltrate the runoff from the proposed addition, but at the request of the Committee, S. Byrne agreed to a drip line trench, consisting of 6 inch deep loose packed gravel (1/2inch stone) installed along the edge of the roofline.

R. Howell made and P. Jones seconded a motion to issue a negative determination (#3), with a special condition for erosion control and if there is any stockpiling of the soil it will be out of the buffer zone; the WPC voted 3-0.

Adjournment

R. Howell made and P. Jones seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting; the WPC voted 3-0 to adjourn at 9:28pm.